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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to express their sincere condolences to the family and friends of United States Army Captain Travis Patriquin, who was killed in action in Iraq on December 6, 2006; and

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WHEREAS, Travis Patriquin was born on August 15, 1974, in St. Louis, Missouri; his parents are Gary and Connie Patriquin; and

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WHEREAS, He attended St. Dennis School in Lockport, graduating from eighth grade in 1988; he graduated from Francis Howell North High School in St. Charles, Missouri, in 1992, where he earned letters in track and football; after graduation he enlisted in the United States Army, where he attended Ranger school and entered the special forces; and

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WHEREAS, Captain Patriquin served in Central America in 1993 and 1994 where he learned local dialects; later he returned to Fort Campbell and was sent to the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, where he learned Arabic; he then made friends with two Arabic speakers and learned the conversational form of the language; he later attended officer school at Fort Benning, Georgia; and

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1 WHEREAS, After the September 11th attacks in New York City,
2 he led a unit in Afghanistan that is credited with starting
3 Operation Anaconda; while serving in Afghanistan he fought for
4 18 hours behind enemy lines and received the Bronze Star; and

5 WHEREAS, Captain Patriquin served with the 1st Brigade, 1st
6 Armored Division, and was serving in Tikrit, Iraq; while
7 serving in Iraq he developed a program to help the military
8 relate to the residents of the dangerous Iraqi province of
9 al-Anbar; and

10 WHEREAS, Captain Patriquin was fluent in several
11 languages, including Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, and two
12 Central American Indian dialects; he would reach out to anyone
13 willing to learn and would tutor anyone in Arabic; he was a
14 caring man who was a friend to both Americans and Iraqis and
15 his leadership will be greatly missed; and

16 WHEREAS, While serving in Iraq, Captain Patriquin served in
17 the same Army unit that his grandfather, John Patriquin, had
18 served with in World War II; and

19 WHEREAS, Army Captain Travis Patriquin is survived by his
20 wife, Amy; his children, Emily, Harmon, and Logan; his
21 siblings, Daniel, Karrie, and Steven; his grandparents, Jack
22 and LaVerne Patriquin; and his parents, Gary and Connie

1 Patriquin; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
4 his family and friends, the passing of United States Army
5 Captain Travis Patriquin; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of Captain Patriquin and
7 his willingness to serve our country which led to him making
8 the ultimate sacrifice; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the family of Captain Travis Patriquin, along with
11 our utmost respect.